Procedure to extend Question Hour

(Several Members stood up to put supplementaries.)

Mr. SPEAKER.—It is not a correct parliamentary procedure to extend the one hour time.

Sri B. P. GANGADHAR.—I had given a notice under rule 55 of the Rules of procedure.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I shall give an opportunity to all those Members who have given notice to speak.

As regards extending the time of Question Hour, it is against parliamentary practice to extend the time. If hon. Members co-operate with the Chair and put a few supplementaries all the questions can be covered within the prescribed time.

Speaker's Report

Mr. SPEAKER.—As required under rule 18 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Legislative Assembly, I report to the House that His Excellency the Governor was pleased to address the Legislature on 19-1-1970 and I place a copy of the Address on the Table of the House.

Copy of the Governor's Address

Honourable Members of the Legislature,

I have great pleasure in extending to you all a warm welcome on this occasion of my first address to the joint session of the Mysore Houses of Legislature.

I have reasons to begin on an optimistic note. After four years of unprecedented drought, the State has been favoured with a good harvest for the current year. Reports of inadequate rainfall were confined to less than 25 per cent of the villages and even here, the arrival of late rains has helped to retrieve the situation. The relief works, which had been started primarily for providing employment during the earlier drought period, have helped to create productive assets in the form of permanent improvement to land through soil conservation works, minor irrigation works and irrigation wells.

The law and order situation during the year 1969 has also been generally satisfactory and excepting for the unfortunate aberration of a communal trouble at Hubli in March and the interlude of student agitation during September, Mysore has lived up to its reputation for

peace and stability. There has been an appreciable decline in the incidence of crime. The contravention of the Foodgrain Control Orders has similarly recorded a downward trend.

On the food front also, the outlook is heartening. Although the State continues to be marginally deficit in rice, it is a matter of some satisfaction that it has achieved self-sufficiency in coarse grain. The gap between food supply and demand has been narrowed following a general improvement in agricultural production with extensive adoption of high-yielding varieties of seeds.

About this time, last year, my Government addressed itself pertinently to the problems of toning up administration. An Efficiency Research Bureau was set up under the direct control and supervision of the Chief Secretary, charged with the responsibility for improving the efficiency and raising the level of performance of work in the Mysore Government Secretariat and other offices. A vigorous drive for cutting down delays and clearing up the backlog of old cases was launched and I am glad to observe that substantial reduction in the number of old pending cases has been achieved. A thorough review of age-old methods and procedures of work was long overdue. This has since been carried out and simplified techniques and methods of work have been introduced with a view to speeding up disposal of Government business. Attention of Government was also focussed on the need for improving the skills and professional ability of all Secretariat staff as also for orienting and motivating them to more efficient performance. For this purpose, a training programme was organised. Already, 66 Section Officers and 7 Senior Assistants have been trained and "exposed" to improved techniques and methods of work It is proposed similarly to train up other Secretariat officials in sucessive batches. The strategy is to gradually extend this efficiency drive to the executive agencies and field offices outside the Secretariat. The activities of the Efficiency Research Bureau will be expanded to set up a centralised cell in the Secretariat which will arrange for both regular and surprise inspection visits to field offices and depeartment. The intention is not so much to find fault with the Departments but to afford the supervisory officers and the staff expert high powered guidance and assistance, so that they are themselves encouraged to introduce suitable improvements in day-to-day work.

Government have accepted the basic recommendations of the Pay Commission in regard to the revision of the pay structure, and the new scales have been brought into effect from 1st January 1970. The number of pay-scales has been reduced to 21 from 108. The additional commitment on this account is substantial, and is likely to be of the order of Rs. 10 crores per annum initially. The decision to revise the scales of pay has been taken in spite of the financial stringency which we are facing, in order to give the much needed relief to the employees of Government, especially those in the lower-paid categories.

It is hoped that the improvement in emoluments will be reflected in an even greater dedication to work on the part of the employees, and that there will be a perceptible impact on efficiency in administration.

However, there is one particular matter which continues to be a source of concern to my Government and the people of Mysore. The recommendations of the one-man Commission, Shri Mehr Chand Mahajan, who was appointed in October 1966 to adjudicate on the boundary dispute between Maharashtra and Mysore and Mysore and Kerala, have not yet been implemented. My Government has taken a consistent stand that the recommendations of the Mahajan Commission have to be treated as an award and implemented in entirety. My Government has made several representations to the Central Government on the subject. I am sure I am voicing the feelings of the two Houses of Legislature in saying that the matter brooks no delay and the recommendation of the Commission should be implemented withot further loss of time.

With this preamble, I shall now proceed to briefly review the salient programmes and activities of Departments of Government.

Land Reforms and Revenue Administration

My Government has paid close attention to the need for expediting implementation of the land reforms programme in the State.

The concluding phase of the land reforms programme, namely, vesting ownership of lands held on lease by tenants is now under implementation. The financial involvement on this phase of work for the State is heavy as compensation to the extent of Rs. 35 to 40 crores may have to be paid to the landlords on account of the non-resumable areas of land vesting in the State Government. As the tenants may not have the resources to pay the corresponding purchasing price in full in a lump and thus get ownership rights without delay, the assistance of nationalised Banks is being sought.

In order to quicken the adjudication of resumption applications, rent recovery applications, etc., pending before the Tribunals, the total number of Courts to deal with these applications has been augmented considerably. Further, such of the functions of the Tribunals as were of purely executive character, have now been delegated to the executive machinery of the Revenue Department. These changes were brought about by an amendment promulgated as an Ordnance on 2nd January 1970; the Bill to replace this will doubtless come before you for consideration during the current session.

A State Level Committee presided over by the Chief Minister has been set up to periodically review the practical results achieved and examine how the pace and efficiency of these measures can be increased.

To ensure fair and rapid distribution of Government lands available for cultivation, Consultative Committees at the Taluk level including responsible non-officials of the area are being set up and will start functioning shortly.

My Government have made arrangements to print over 40 lakhs Patta Books for distribution to the land holders at nominal price. They are being written up and distributed. This pass book will contain all relevant entries relating to each holding which will enable the holder to obtain production finance without much difficulty.

A project to rehabilitate landless persons in about 1,000 acres of forest land released in Periapatna Taluk, with the assistance of the Mysore Rehabilitation and Development Agency is in operation. Another project to rehabilitate educated unemployed persons in a block of Government land released for the purpose, in Chickmagalur District, is under consideration. Similar projects in other divisions are contemplated. The State Bank of Mysore, has, I am happy to state, agreed to finance such projects.

In order to induce Commercial Banks to go into agricultural financing to a larger extent than before, arrangements have been made to note the liens of Banks on agricultural holdings even in case where such liens are created without formal registration. Registration and Stamp fees in respect of advances up to Rs. 5,000 to small farmers for agricultural purposes has been waived.

The prescribed court fee on all applications under the Land Reforms Law has been waived for all tenants.

Planning

The Fourth Plan of Mysore State originally envisaged an outlay of Rs. 421 crores. This was deferred and annual Plans were implemented during the period 1966-1969. The outlay for these years amounted Rs. 177 crores, the Central assistance being Rs. 111.35 crores.

The National Development Council decided that the Fourth Plan should commence from 1st April, 1969. The Planning Commission had suggested a Plan of the size of Rs. 327.10 crores, the Central assistance being Rs. 173 crores.

The Fifth Finance Commission gave its report to the Government of India a few months back and it has been accepted. According to this, Mysore is to get a sum of Rs. 197.42 crores over a five-year period, which is Rs. 18 crores less than what was awarded by the Fourth Finance Commission. The singularly un-favourable award of the Fifth Finance Commission has hurt us grievously. My Government took up the matter strongly with the Government of India. A careful analysis was made of the resources of the State and the contribution which we could make towarde the Plan. It was found that the maximum resources that the State could raise would not be more than Rs. 50 crores. This would have resulted in our having an extremely small plan which could not have met the needs of our developing economy.

I am happy to inform the Hon'ble members that the Government of India and the Planning Commission have taken an extremely helpful and constructive attitude towards the very difficult problems faced by

Mysore State, and have agreed in principle that some way must be found to enable our State to have an adequate Plan. The exact manner in which this is to be done will depend upon the review to be undertaken each year. It may be either by rescheduling of the debts, or by *ad hoc* Central assistance or in permitting the State Government to go in for increased market borrowings, or it may be by a judicious admixture of all the three methods.

These efforts will enable the State to have a Plan of the size of about Rs. 350 crores which is considered to be the irreducible minimum. My Government have decided to lay the greatest emphasis on Major and Medium Irrigation and Power Projects. We have to ensure that all our Major Irrigation Projects are completed expeditiously and also to safeguard our right in the Cauvery and Krishna basins. The allocation for Major and Medium Irrigation Projects will be of the order of Rs. 90 crores, for Minor Irrigation of Rs. 32 crores, and for Power of Rs. 87.50 crores.

In view of the difficult resources position, my Government is taking particular care to see that planned investment is made only in essential areas and fields of activity. In the field of Social Services, it is proposed to provide for a normal growth of 8 per cent per annum in Education, and 5 per cent under other heads of development. It is proposed to concentrate on consolidating the gains that have already been achieved and to secure maximum results in all fields of development. The emphasis will be on improvement of quality rather than on mere quantitative expansion.

It will not be correct to hold that it is only the investment by the State Government that determines the Plan outlay. My Government proposes to encourage investment by various other public sector and financing institutions, like the State Electricity Board, the Road Transport Corporation, the Housing Board, the Corporation of Bangalore, the Mysore State Finance Corporation and other bodies. The lendings through the co-operative structure for short-term and medium-term and longterm credits are also being substantially stepped up. It is hoped that these additional activities will result in an investment of not less than Rs. 150 crores over the Plan period. This strategy of building up a number of financial institutions which would make investments on economic considerations will ensure that the planned effort is stepped up. Government is also maintaining a close and continuous association with the Reserve Bank of India and its affiliates and other Banks. This has helped in stimulating the economy in a significant manner. I am confident that, as a result of these steps the opportunities available for employment and a meaningful planned endeavour in the State will be expanded considerably during the coming year.

My Government is keenly aware of the problem of growing unemployment, both among educated people and in the rural areas. Various measures are being devised to tackle this problem. Increased

investment in Agriculture and Industries as part of planned effort, creates employment opportunities. We are trying to see that investment in the fields of Irrigation and Power is substantially stepped up. We have also adopted a pragmatic policy of stimulating industrial development, both in the public and in the private sectors, without getting lost in doctrinaire dogmas.

Increased economic activity during the last two decades has also given birth to a number of problems. One of the rather unfortunate features has been that the benefits of economic development have not been distributed evenly, and there has been a feeling that some classes of people and regions have been able to get more benefits than the others. While it is difficult to say whether this is correct or not in the absence of accurate data, it is essential to take note of this feeling, and to initiate remedial action to ensure Social Justice. My Government is earnestly considering this question to ensure that the benefits of economic development are spread as widely as possible not only among different classes of people, but also in the different regions of the State.

But, I am sure, the Hon'ble Members would appreciate that these are essentially national problems in which the lead has to be given by the Government of India, and considerable stimulus and financial support has to flow from them.

Social Welfare

Special attention has been paid to the programmes of welfare of the weaker sections of the population. I should like to make particular mention of some of the Important measures introduced for the benefit of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes; 10 per cent of the house sites formed by local bodies and Improvement Trusts are to be reserved for them; 18 per cent of the building sites in villages available for disposal by the Revenue Department will be earmarked for them. The interest rate on Government loans such as Land Improvement and Taccavi Loans has also been reduced from 8½ per cent to 3 per cent in their case.

Under Article 16 (4) of the Constitution, orders were issued in 1963 to provide for reservation of vacancies of posts in all Government Departments to an extent of 3, 15 and 30 per cent for Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes respectively. In actual working it was found that this did not help to provide for recruitment of candidates from these classes when the number of posts to be filled up was relatively small. To overcome this difficulty, orders have been issued for classification of vacancies according to a cycle of 33. It is hoped that this would ensure fair representation to all classes.

This Hon'ble House has recently appointed a Committee of its Members to continually review the progress of the work and to offer its suggestions. I am sure that this Committee will make a significant impact on the improvement of economic and employment opportunities for the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

My Government considers that the ultimate solution to the problems faced by the weaker sections of the society is to provide facilities for their education and improving their skills. To this end, a number of steps have been taken to provide hostel facilities, scholarships and other measures. In 1958-59 there were 67 hostels with 1,675 boarders. The number of hostels functioning today is 367 and of boarders 16,884, which include 3,389 girls. The value of scholarships awarded for post-Matric students during this year is of the order of Rs. 55 lakhs. Three hundred and fifty students are studying Medicine and 275 are in the Engineering Colleges. I have no doubt that the cumulative effect of these various measures will be to make the weaker section self-reliant and help them to function as effective members of the Indian society.

Agriculture

Modern methods of agriculture are gaining momentum. The High Yielding Varieties programme has made an effective impact on the general cropping pattern in the State. The area under High Yielding Varieties has gone up from 1.67 lakhs acres in 1966-67 to 7.39 lakhs acres in 1968-69 and it will be much more during the current year. To ensure supply of certified seeds to the farmers, Government have sanctioned 2 more Seed Processing Centres at Haradanahally in Mysore District and Bagalkot in Bijapur District.

But the basic requirement is finance and I am glad to tell you that several Commercial Banks have come forward to provide loans to the farmers for the purchase of tractors, I. P. sets, fertilisers, etc. A Central Scheme for assisting small farmers has been accepted in principle and it will be implemented shortly in 2 Districts of Mysore and Bidar involving a total outlay of Rs. 3.2 crores over a 5-year period.

Government have taken steps to establish Farmers' Training and Education Centres at Kudige in Coorg District, Halikere in Shimoga District and Arabhavi in Belgaum District during the year, in addition to the existing 2 centres at Gangavathi and Hebbal.

The Intensive Agricultural Area Programme was extended to two additional districts, Bangalore and Gulbarga, besides the other ten districts in which it has already made headway.

Until November 1969 an area of 2.22 lakhs acres had been contour bunded. The intention is to extend the coverage of soil conservation programme and for this purpose 2 more Soil Conservation Divisions with 10 Sub-Divisions have been sanctioned.

Soil testing is an important ingredient of scientific farming and it is heartening to find that it is becoming more and more popular with the farmers. There are 6 Soil Testing Laboratories and 1 Mobile Soil Testing Van at present. In addition 2 new Soil Testing Laboratories, one at Gulbarga and the other at Shimoga, were started during the year.

In keeping with its policy to establish facilities for training in improved methods of agriculture to the farmers all over the State, 2 more agricultural schools at Gulbarga and Bellary, will be opened shortly.

There is an increasing demand for mechanising agricultural operations. To meet this demand Government have already placed orders for import of 80 crawlers tractors with U.S.S.R. at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.5 crores.

The Department has been supplying agricultural machinery like Tractors, Power Tillers, Bulldozers, Oil Engine Pumpsets and other agricultural equipment on hire-purchase system to the farmers for quite some time. But facilities for repair and overhaul of these equipments were not available. To meet this long felt need Government have now decided to establish 4 agricultural machinery installation, servicing and repair centres in Dharwar, Shimoga, Kolar and Raichur.

The Mysore State Agro-Industries Corporation has so far distributed 652 Tractors, 231 Power Tillers and 2,267 I.P. Sets. For the year 1970-71, the Corporation has fixed a target for distribution of 1,000 tractors and 2,000 sets of diesel and electrical irrigation pump sets.

The new campus of the University of Agricultural Sciences which has been christened as Gandhi Krishi Vignana Kendra was inaugurated at Hebbal by the Prime Minister of India on July 12, 1969. The strength of B. Sc. (Agri) Course has been raised to 380. Post-Graduate Courses in three new subjects, a three-year Diploma Course in Agricultural Engineering have been started. A Fisheries College, the first of its kind in India, was opened recently.

It is proposed to start a rural Oriented Home Science College at the University. During 1970-71, short-term courses to train agricultural graduates in practical farming are also contemplated. The extension activities of the University now cover 6 taluks in Kolar, 2 taluks in Tumkur and 10 taluks in Dharwar District.

Forests

During the Fourth Five-Year Plan, it is proposed to cover an area of 90,000 hectares with teak, softwood, cashew, linalue, fuel, eucalyptus and other species, out of which 18,000 hectares is expected to be covered during 1969-70. Due to gregarious flowering of bamboos, intensive plantations of eucalyptus hybrid has been taken up as it is found suitable for pulp manufacture as an admixture with a certain percentage of long fibred pulp. Rubber plantations have been raised over an area of about 3,000 hectares to rehabilitate repatriates of Indian origin from Ceylon. A beginning has been made in raising cocoa plantation over an area of about 200 hectares.

Farm Forestry is proposed to be taken up on a large scale by providing adequate finances as matching grants to the Taluk Development Boards and the Village Panchayats. This would enable rearing of a good number of trees on lands vesting in the Village Panchayats and Taluk Development Boards.

To meet the growing demand for raw materials for wood-based industries and for development of scrub and dry deciduous forests, it is proposed to set-up a Forest Corporation.

The new Mysore Forest Act, 1963 has been brought into force from the 1st of June 1969.

Animal Husbandry

Mass prophylactic vaccination for the eradication of rinderpest among cattle has been completed in nine districts. Duiring the year 45 rural veterinary dispensaries were sanctioned and 20 were upgraded thus raising the total to 757. A medium sized Intensive Cattle Development Block and Intensive Poultry Development Block are being implemented. A large scale Sheep Farm at Challakere in Chitradurga District will be established shortly with Central assistance. For upgrading the local flock and improving the yield of wool, 50 pedigreed rams and 250 ewes will be imported from U.S.S.R. It is proposed to distribute 100 boars during the current year for development of piggery. A new strain of high yielding pure white leghorn breed capable of laying over 230 eggs per annum has been evolved at the Central Poultry Farm at Hessarghatta. Five new milk plants at Bhadravati, Belgaum, Gulbarga, Mysore and Mangalore each, will be commissioned shortly.

The Indo-Danish Project has done commendable work during the last five years. It is proposed to extend the agreement for a further period of five years from 1st April 1970 with the technical assistance of the Government of Denmark. Negotiations are also in progress to establish a unit for preparing Foot and Mouth disease vaccine, with the assistance of the Government of Denmark.

Fisheries

The two co-operative Fisheries Projects in South and North Kanara districts have made good progress. A major development during the year 1968-69 has been the provision of finance by scheduled banks for acquisition of mechanised fishing boats. The financial facilities offered by the scheduled banks and the Agricultural Refinance Corporation will be availed of for acquiring mechanised fishing boats, setting up ice plants and fish processing plants, as also for developing marketing export and extension of fish culture in the State, Government providing certain incentives by way of subsidies and strengthening of share capital of co-operatives. The present strength of mechanised fishing

boats is being increased by a further addition of about 150 small and medium mechanised fishing boats. For the development of deep sea fishing two 57 feet steel trawlers are being commissioned.

A Grow More Fish Campaign was carried out in the State to promote development of inland fisheries. During this year, it is proposed to extend fish farming in the State, and for this purpose, the production of fish seed will be increased by the expansion of fish farms and establishment of additional nurseries at Taluk and District levels.

Food and Civil supplies

It has been considered desirable until such time as the general improvement in the food situation gets stabilized, to continue informal rationing in Bangalore City and K.G.F. areas, and also to continue supplies through Fair Price Shops to the vulnerable groups in the semi-urban areas throughout the State. To meet the requirements of these areas, as also to build up a buffer stock, it has been decided to continue the levy orders in respect of Paddy and Jowar. The procurement price of Paddy has been increased by Rs. 2 per quintal. Co-operatives will as before function as Government Agents for this work.

As open market prices of Jowar and Paddy fell quite low during recent months, it was felt that protection should be extended to the farmer by price support measures. Government have, therefore, undertaken to purchase at the procurement prices whatever quantities of Paddy and Jowar are offered by the growers.

The position in regard to Wheat and Wheat-products, Sugar and essential commodities like Kerosene and Vanaspathi is quite satisfactory.

Panchayat Raj

To augment the resources of Panchayat Raj bodies the Mysore Village Panchayats and Local Boards (Amendment) Ordinance, 1969 was promulgated on 16th October 1969. This provides for the entire land revenue collection being given to the Panchayat Raj institutions and also for a levy by them of a small cess on land revenue. The year under reference was the Gandhi Centenary year. It is in the fitness of things that Government have, during this year, sanctioned water supply schemes in all cases where plans and estimates were ready and the stipulated contribution of 10 per cent towards the cost of the scheme had been paid by the Local Bodies concerned. A total of 124 schemes involving an outlay of Rs. 2.10 crores have been sanctioned. Before the end of the year, sanction for many more such schemes will be accorded.

There are 3,600 villages (including 1,900 hamlets) which do not have even one effective well. Government have decided that wells

should be sanctioned for all the villages in which such wells are likely to be successful and to explore alternatives in villages where local terrain rules out the possibility of successful wells.

The Mysore Panchayati Raj Bill is being introduced in this session. It provides for the creation of independent Zilla Parishads at district level with wide powers, independent finances and jurisdiction over the entire district, in place of the present District Development Councils which are co-ordinating bodies. It also provides for strengthening the local bodies at the Taluk and Village levels.

Four hundred and forty-seven villages have been selected under the Village Housing Project Scheme ; an amount of Rs. 133.22 lakhs has been spent and 6,709 houses have been completed ; 3,317 houses are in different stages of construction.

Co-operation

The progress of the Co-operative Movement has been steady. As on 31st March 1969, there were 20,070 Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 38 lakhs. Almost all the villages are covered by a network of Agricultural Credit/Service Co-operatives, the membership accounting for 46 per cent of the rural population. A time has now come for consolidating the movement. It is, therefore, proposed to amalgamate the smaller units so as to make them viable ; and free them from the unhealthy influence of vested interests. A Bill is being introduced in the current session for introducing provisions which will help to strengthen the Co-operative Movement.

During the year 1968-69 the Agricultral Credit/Service Co-operative. provided Rs. 31.05 crores by way of short and medium term loans ts farmers. As compared to the previous year there has been an increaso to the extent of Rs. 5.85 crores in respect of advances. The speciae feature of this year's finance was the provision of loans for the purchasl and installation of 9,858 pump sets covering an amount of Rs. 2 crorese

Consequent on the nationalisation of major commercial banks in the country, the State Government decided to involve Commercial Banks in providing agricultural finance to Agaicultural Credit/Service Co-operatives in 7 districts of the State in which the Co-operative movement was relatively weak and could not provide the finance required by agriculturists. The Banks have accepted the schemes ; they would be fully financing the members in the area of operation of 1,040 co-operative societies.

During the year the advances made by the State Land Development Bank amounted to Rs. 6.72 crores, bringing the total advances till the end of the year to Rs. 30.95 crores. Rs. 2.70 crores were provided for sinking of 6,032 new wells. As from 1st January 1966, the total amount sanctioned is Rs. 14.67 crores for 36,779 wells.

The Agricultural Refinance Corporation has sanctioned a total financial outlay of Rs. 10.75 crores for agricultural development of about four lakhs acres of land under the Tugabhadra, Bhadra and Ghataprabha Projects. The Corporation has also sanctioned a total financial outlay of Rs. 11.50 crores for the development of plantation crops, for sinking 4,940 irrigation wells, installation of as many pump sets and their energising, as also for development of fisheries.

The size of financial assistance to be provided in the form of medium and short-term loans is expected to increase next year to Rs. 75 crores—Rs. 50 crores by the Co-operative Sector and Rs. 25 crores by the Scheduled Banks.

During the year ended August 1969 the procurement of foodgrains through Co-operative Agencies was of the order of 1.15 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 5.86 crores. Government have decided that in addition to the schemes entrusted to the State Land Development Bank for implementation through the agency of Primary Land Development Banks, some schemes should also be entrusted to the State Bank of India for direct implementation.

The World Bank has been approached for assistance through the Government of India and the Agricultural Refinance Corporation in undertaking schemes of Agricultural Development. The report to be sent to the World Bank is under preparation.

The schemes under implementation which are refinanced by the Agricultural Refinance Corporation, those already sent to and under the consideration of the Corporation and those included afresh in the Report to be sent to the World Bank would cover the following categories, the estimated cost being Rs. 84 crores:

1 Reclamation and Development of Land under Irrigation Projects.
2 Establishment of Lift Irrigation Schemes.
3 Construction of Wells and provision of Pump Sets.
4 Mechanisation of Agriculture.

The possibility of taking up Irrigation Projects with the assistance of the Financing Agencies is also being explored.

Three more Co-operative Sugar Factories are going to be established in Davangere, Chikodi and Raibag Taluks.

A scheme for development and improvement of market complex and roads in the Tungabhadra Project command area during the year 1969-70 has been sanctioned. The estimated cost will be of the order of Rs. 50 lakha and will be met by the Government of India.

One of the five Rural Electric Co-operative Societies sanctioned by Government of India has been established in Mysore State, at Hukkeri. The Central assistance for this scheme is of the order of Rs. 2 crores.

Housing

The Mysore Housing Board has so far spent Rs. 1,890.43 lakhs and built 25,333 houses under various Housing Schemes. In addition to this cash loans amounting to Rs. 556.00 lakhs have been sanctioned to individuals and institution for building 5,875 houses. 10,700 houses are under various stages of construction. The schemes of the Board cover all the larger cities and most of the larger towns. The area of operation of the Board will be extended to other towns in due course.

The Housing Board was permitted to float debentures amounting to Rs. 6 crores during the current year. They were over-subscribed. A proposal for constituting a revolving fund of Rs. 17 crores has been sent to the Government of India for acquisition of land on a large scale and construction of houses in the urban areas.

Education

School Education.—With a view to unifying the pattern of primary education throughout the State, primary schools administered by the District and Municipal school Boards in the districts of Dharwar. Belgaum, Karwar and Bijapur were taken over by Government. It is also proposed to take over primary schools run by the erstwhile District Boards at Bellary and South Kanara. A uniform grant-in-aid code for Primary Schools providing for cent per cent assistance and direct payment of salaries and allowances to teachers has been adopted. A number of schemes have been undertaken to improve the quality of education; 500 graduate trained teachers have been appointed as Headmasters of Model Primary Schools; a pilot project has been taken up in 9 taluks in different districts with a view to reducing wastage and stagnation in schools.

During the year, 74 additional High Schools, including two Government High Schools were started, and 52 of the existing High Schools were permitted to open XI Standard classes. At Kittur in Belgaum District a military biased residential school for girls has been opened by the Kittur Rani Chennamma Memorial Committee with Classes V to VIII comprising of 100 students. Government have sanctioned generous grants for instituting scholarships and towards purchase of furniture for this school.

Uniform text books have been introduced throughout the State, excepting in some minor languages where the books have not been nationalised. To ensure timely preparation, printing and distribution of these books a separate Directorate of Text Books has been established. The Educational Researeh Bureau, the Text Book Printing Press in Mysore and the Text Book Committee have been placed under the adminitrative control of this Directorate.

University Education.—It has been decided to lengthen the span of education by one more year by introducting a two-year Pre-University Course as recommended by the Education Commission from the academic year 1971-72. An *Ad hoc* Committee has been constituted to make necessary arrangements in the matter of introduction of the two-year Pre-University Course.

The University Grants Commission have approved the establishment of a University Centre for Post-Graduate Studies at Gulbarga. Post-Graduate Departments in Mathematics, Kannada and English will be started in 1970–71 and in Chemistry from 1971–72.

Government have extended the scheme of Grant-in-Aid to the newly started private colleges also.

The first volume of the Kannada Encyclopaedia (Kannada Vishwa Kosha) was released on 21st November 1969 by the University of Mysore which marks an important milestone in the development and growth of Kannada literature. A Junior Encyclopaedia in Kannada for the benefit of school-going children is being compiled by the Karnatak Co-operative Publishing House. The first volume is expected to be released before the next Rajyothsava Day.

During the year the Government of India established a Central institute of Languages in the campus of the University of Mysore.

Technical Education.—There has been a certain set-back in the progress of Technical Education owing to the general industrial recession in the country. However, courses are being revised and modernised to suit the needs of the day. New Secretarial Practice Courses were started in the Polytechnics at Mysore, Davangere and Belgaum with an intake of 60 students at each centre. At the diploma level, courses in Telecommunication Engineering were introduced at the Government Polytechnic at Gulbarga and at the Women's Polytechnic, Bangalore, and a course in Automobile Technology is being started at the Government Polytechnic, Bellary. A Polytechnic for Women at Mangalore will come into existence from the next academic year. Post-graduate courses in Engineering and Textile Technology are introduced and developed at the Karnatak Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, Visvesvaraya College of Engineering, Bangalore and S.K.S.J.T. Institute, Bangalore.

Library Development.—The Library movement in the State has gained momentum. During the Fourth Plan period, 19 District Central Libraries, 5 City Central Libraries, 408 Branch Libraries, and 5,246 Delivery Stations are proposed to be opened.

Youth Welfare

The House is aware that last year this Government took a pioneering step in creating a separate portfolio for youth welfare. During the last few months, various measures have been taken to build up a Youth

Service in the State. A State Youth Welfare Board with Vice-Chancellors of the Universities, representatives of voluntary youth organisations and student representatives has been set up under the chairmanship of the Minister for Youth Welfare. A Directorate of Youth has also been set up. At the District level, Youth Boards have been constituted and it is hoped that this will provide the much needed impetus to the development of youth services at the district and local levels.

Government have taken up a number of schemes to promote the welfare of the youth. Of these special mention may be made of the much appreciated scheme for award of handsome cash prizes to students securing high ranks in the S.S.L.C. and other public examinations, some of the prizes being earmarked for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Other important schemes under implementation are : (i) the appointment of Student Welfare Officers in selected colleges in the State, (ii) the organisation of Inter-Collegiate and Inter-University Youth Festivals for the Universities in the State and (iii) the extension of financial assistance for purchase of capital equipment required for taking up "Earn as you Learn" schemes in colleges. It is also proposed to establish a net work of Youth Centres with a State Youth Centre in Bangalore at the apex. Schemes have also been prepared for the revitalization of rural youth clubs.

Irrigation

Ten Major and 26 Medium Irrigation Projects including Bhadra Project and Tunga Bhadra Project were under execution in the first 3 Plan periods Against the total estimated cost of Rs. 318.05 crores, an expenditure of Rs. 126.54 crores was incurred until the end of 1968–69, thus leaving a spil over of Rs. 191.51 crores. The cumulative potential and utilisation at the end of 1968–69 was 11.7 lakhs acres and 9.56 lakhs acres respectively as against the total irrigable area of 13.16 lakhs acres.

During the Fourth Plan period, it was proposed to expedite the construction of projects under execution and also proposed to take up some Major and Medium Irrigation Projects. In the Draft Plan, a provision of Rs. 90 crores has been made for Major and Medium Irrigation Projects. It is expected that at the end of the Fourth Plan the cumulative targets of potential and utilisation will be 16.26 lakhs acres, and 14.45 lakhs acres respectively.

A number of new Projects, *viz.*, Manchanabele, Karanja, Gundal, Harangi and Devarabilikere were sanctioned during the year and necessary preparatory steps have also been taken for the construction of these projects. Having regard to the tempo of the construction of several Major and Medium Irrigation Projects under execution, and also the requirements of new projects sanctioned recently, an additional grant of Rs. 700 lakhs has been made available for major and medium irrigation projects. This will entail an increase of Rs. 7 to 8 crores over the budget allotment of Rs. 11.75 crores.

With a view to achieving economy and quality in the construction programme of the State, a Public Sector undertaking called 'The Mysore State Construction Corporation' was established in September 1968. The Corporation has so far undertaken works costing about Rs 7 crores in some of the major projects of our State, and it is gratifying to note that it has made a gross profit of Rs. 56,038 after providing depreciation in the first year's working.

Power

The Honourable Members may be aware that 7 units of the Sharavathi Valley Project are already functioning and the 8th will be ready by June 1970, when a total capacity of 7,12,800 kws. of energy would be realised. The State is at present surplus in power. We are continuing to supply power to the neighbouring States. However it is to be borne in mind that according to the 5th Annual Power Survey Report, the State would face power shortage at the end of 1973-74. To forestall that situation it is necessary to take up the Kalinadi Hydro-Electric Project which is included in the Fourth Plan. The project report is presently under the scrutiny of the Government of India.

The State Government are proceeding apace with a programme of electrifying rural areas and energising Irrigation Pumpsets. During 1968-69, 565 villages were electrified and 20,536 I.P. sets serviced exceeding the targets of 500 villages and 20,000 I.P. sets fixed in the beginning of the year. During the year 1969-70, though it is proposed to electrify 500 villages and to service 20,000 I.P. sets, attempts are being made to step up this target further. Instructions have been issued to the Board to maintain the same tempo for the coming year also. Government is aware of the Electricity Board's inability to undertake large scale rural electrification programme in the State. It has been accordingly decided to subsidise partially the interest charges on the loans drawn by it from the Commercial Banks and also to advance a perpetual loan of Rs. 6 crores every year to the Board for this purpose. It is hoped that this liberal assistance will enable the Electricity Board to achieve the targets of rural electrification without serious difficulty.

In view of the increase in the cost of unremunerative schemes of rural electrification the Board was obliged to raise the minimum charges for supply of power to I.P. sets. In response to representations received from agriculturists and others, Government have agreed to reduce the charges from monthly rate of Rs. 4 per H.P. to an annual minimum rate of Rs. 36 per H.P., as an interim measure. A final decision in the matter will be taken on the recommendation of the Tariff Committee.

Communications

A sum of Rs. 15.00 crores is proposed to be spent during the IV Five-Year Plan (1969-74) on Communications, priority being given to the construction of new bridges and improvement of roads. Mention

may be made of the important bridge projects. On National Highway No. 13, a bridge across Krishna near Araldinni, behind the proposed Almatti Dam, estimated to cost Rs. 49.94 lakhs and on National Highway No. 4, a bridge over Malaprabha near M. K. Hubli, estimated to cost Rs. 18. 89 lakhs have been recently sanctioned by the Government of India. On State Highways, a bridge across Tungabhadra near Gillesgur in Raichur District and a bridge on Cauvery river near Mahadevapura in Srirangapatna Taluk have been sanctioned by the State Government. The cost of the bridge near Gillesgur is shared equally by the State Government, Central Government and Andhra Pradesh Government.

The Hon'ble Members are perhaps already aware of Government's decision that the maintenance of roads constructed by the Public Works Department under Rural Communication Programme be vested with Taluk Development Boards and that 50 per cent of the expenditure incurred by the Boards, should be reimbursed by the Government subject to a maximum of Rs. 150 per mile.

Buildings

Amongst buildings projects, a mention might be made of the execution on behalf of Government of India of Rs. one crore the 'Hotel India' building project which is nearing completion and is likely to be commissioned in a year's time. The State Government have approved recently the construction of composite Civil and Criminal Court Buildings at Bangalore at an estimated cost of Rs. 116.00 lakhs and Rs. 54.50 lakhs respectively. The proposal to construct Legislator's Home, to alleviate the difficulties caused to Hon'ble Members due to shortage of suitable accommodation, is under active consideration of Government.

Industries

Among the various steps taken by Government to accelerate the industrial development of the State, Government have recently announced a number of incentives to attract new industries. These incentives which would be available to all new industries for the first five years from the date of commencement of production include concessions regarding sales-tax, electricity tax and conversion fine on land required for industrial use. Municipalities and Corporations are being requested to exempt new industries from octroi on building materials, capital equipment and other raw materials. The Mysore State Industrial Investment and Development Corporation provides not only the nucleus of capital but also helps in various ways the new entrepreneurs in preparing project reports, securing industrial licences and providing effective liaison between the industrialist and the several Government authorities. The Mysore Industrial Areas Development Board is developing industrial areas in several parts of the State with a view to ensure availability of 'developed' land on payment of easy instalments of price.

As a result of these several measures a very favourable climate for industrial growth has been created ; the response from new entrepreneurs is encouraging.

Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd.—The expansion programme of Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd. for manufacture of 77,000 tonnes per annum of finished alloy and special steels by conversion of mild steel is expected to be completed by the end of this year. With the introduction of alloy steel manufacture this factory has become an integrated plant accounting for total investment of nearly Rs. 60 crores.

In the coming year, the MISL has planned to take up expansion of its Ferro silicon plant, which is now producing 20,000 tonnes, by addition of another 17,000 tonnes at a cost of Rs. 2.6 crores. The production will be entirely export-oriented. A built-in Forge plant is also being established at a cost of Rs. 3 crores. Besides there are plans to expand the Refractories Plant, the Cement Plant, as also for doubling the capacity of Alloy Steel Plant to 1,50,000 tonnes per annum.

New Government Electric Factory.—New Government Electric Factory has further expanded its lines of production by taking up manufacture of Silicon Power Diodes in collaboration with A.E.G. of West Germany ; it will be producing these Diodes right from crystal stage for the first time in India.

In the field of exports N.G.E.F. has recorded significant achievement in that last year it exported to the Far East and Middle East countries products of the value of Rs. 20 lakhs ; and secured firm orders worth Rs. 45 lakhs for export to European markets during the current year. There are bright prospects of stepping up exports up to the value of Rs. 90 lakhs next year.

My Government has urged the Government of India to locate the Fifth Steel plant in the Hospet area where some of the world's richest iron ore deposits are found and other necessary facilities are also available.

The Aluminium Smelter of Indian Aluminium Company Limited at Belgaum commenced production during December 1969. It is expected that by March-April 1970 the alumina plant will also go into production.

The expansion scheme of Hutti Gold Mines Ltd, which will increase the crushing capacity from 600 tonnes to 1,000 tonnes per day is nearing completion.

Sugar.—Mysore State occupies an important place in sugar industry. Besides the 10 Sugar Factories already in production, 3 more are in different stages of construction and letters of intent for another 7 have been issued. It is expected that with the commissioning of these new factories the production will increase from 2.5 lakh tonnes per annum to 4.5 lakh tonnes.

Sericulture.—Mysore enjoys a unique position, contributing 80 per cent of the silk produced in the country. Various schemes are under consideration of Government to step up production. The major banks in the country have come forward to advance loans for sinking wells which is expected to double the production of mulberry leaves in the same unit of land-holding. The Spun Silk Mills at Channapatna is being modernised and the new unit of 1,500 spindles is expected to be commissioned shortly as a result of which the production capacity of the Mills is likely to increase by 25 per cent. The export of silk fabrics from the State has touched a new figure of Rs. 7.00 crores which is expected to go up to Rs. 12.00 crores by the end of this year.

Minerals.—Final sanction of the Donimalai Iron Ore Project of National Mineral Development Corporation which was received a few months back marks a major step in the mineral development programmes at the State. The new mechanised mine which will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 21.54 crores will produce 4 million tonnes of run-of-mine ore per annum. We hope this project will mark the beginning at a major programme of optimum exploitation of the world-famous rich iron ore deposits of the Bellary-Hospet region and lead to fuller development of rail and port facilities within the State. It should also help to build up closer economic ties with Japan and European countries through the sale of these ores. We are looking forward to results of studies undertaken by National Mineral Development Corporation for the establishment of a pelletisation plant in this region. The broad-gauge railway line which is now being constructed to link Donimalai to Torangallu will be great of to benefit other mines in the area. Pilot plant tests on Kudremukh ores are in progress and the results so far obtained are most encouraging, the beneficiated ore recording a grade of nearly 69 per cent Fe. In due course a gigantic project may be established at Kudremukh at an estimated cost of Rs. 65 crores. This will mark a new phase in our technological advancement and place India and Mysore State in the front rank of world trade in iron ore.

The State has also set up an autonomus body, *viz.*, the Mysore Minerals Ltd., to exploit the minerals of the State which has just completed one year of its successful operation. The outstanding feature of the activities of this company is that it has succeeded in re-establishing export market for Manganese Ore, the first shipment having been made in October 1969 after a lapse of more than four years.

Ports

As Hon'ble Members are aware, the construction of a 30 ft. draft deep sea all-weather harbour at Panambur near Mangalore was taken up by the Government of India. It is expected that this project will be completed by 1972 to synchronise with the opening of the Mangalore-Hassan railway line. I am glad that suitable provision has been made in the design of the harbour for its further expansion to meet the requirements

of programme of export of iron ore from Kudremukh. Proposals for development of Karwar as a port of export for iron ore from the mines in its hinterland are under examination. Pre-investment survey of Honnavar and Malpe has also been taken up.

Health and Family Planning Programme

Considerable headway has been made in the execution of programme for providing buildings to Primary Health Centres. One hundred and thirty-six of these have already acquired dispensary buildings and staff quarters. One hundred and twenty-seven Health Unit type dispensaries have been established in blocks with a population of 15,000.

The existing bed strength in the teaching and other medical institutions adds up to 17,234. Addition of another 300 beds is contemplated. The State has now 13 dental clinics located in various District hospitals and the intake capacity of the Dental College in Bangalore has been raised to 30. A T.B. Sanatorium with 100 beds has been established in Mandya District at B. Hosur colony. It is also proposed to establish a Cancer Relief Centre near Mental Hospital at Bangalore.

Family Planning Services continued to render assistance at 265 Primary Health Centres, 24 Urban Centres located in District Hospitals and Medical College Hospitals and 30 voluntary organisations. The achievements against sterilisation and IUCD placement targets, I regret to state, are very much below expectation. This only illustrates the limitation of official effort. The grave problem of increasing population can be tackled successfully only with the fullest support and co-operation of non-official agencies and leaders of public opinion. I would request the Hon'ble Members to consider this aspect and explore ways and means of harnessing the ability, enterprise and spirit of public service of our dedicated social workers and voluntary organisations.

Municipal Administration

The Corporation of the City of Bangalore has proposed to implement projects for installation of a mechanised compost plant near Challaghatta, establishment of a modern slaughter house and construction of multi-storied public utility buildings.

Action has been taken to provide civic amenities by construction of a General Hospital at Jayanagar, Cold Storage Plant at S.K.R. Market, Electric Crematorium at Wilson Gardens and a Corporation Stadium at Millers Tank.

A plan for the beautification of the City of Bangalore has been drawn up.

The constitution of Municipal Administrative Service is under consideration of Government to enable the Municipal Councils in the State to have trained cadres for rendering efficient service to the public.

Labour

There was a marked improvement in Industrial relations during 1969 over the previous year. There were fewer strikes and the number of man-days lost was also less. For effective implementation of the Labour Laws and to ensure that workers are able to get prompt relief under the law, it was found necessary to strengthen the Labour Department. Accordingly, two more posts of Deputy Labour Commissioners and one more post of Labour Officer have been created. The distribution of work among the Labour Inspectors has also been rationalised.

The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966—which is the Central Act, regulating the Beedi Industry—was extended to this State also from 10th November 1969 repealing the earlier State Act, *i.e.*, the Mysore Beedi Industrial Premises (Regulation of Conditions of Work) Act, 1964. The provisions of both Acts are, however, quite similar. Uniform rules under the Factories Act have also now come into force.

Employment and Training

The problem of unemployment, particularly among the educated, needs urgent attention. Programmes of training are being re-oriented to suit local demands of Industry as also the demands for special skills like Tractor Mechanics and Motor driving. Instead of restricting the programme to a few traditional trades, attempts are being made to introduce new trades which have a direct relation to the nature of industrial development.

In addition to the 14 Industrial Training Institutes in the State, a new Industrial Training Centre has been started in August 1969 at Belgaum to provide technicians for the Aluminium Industry. The Apprenticeship Scheme is also working well.

The Training Institute now being established in Bangalore by the Government of India in collaboration with the Government of West Germany at an initial cost of about Rs. 2 crores is expected to start functioning towards the end of this year (1970). This important institution will train supervisors and foremen in industries—and thereby help to achieve an important break-through at a vital level in the production process.

Road Transport

In keeping with its policy of providing increasing facilities to the travelling public, the Corporation has gradually stepped up the number of Express Services which are now operating on 150 routes. Night services were introduced from Bangalore to Bellary, Shimoga and Mangalore. A fast Express Service between Mangalore and Belgaum

has been introduced linking with the Belgaum-Bangalore Service, in collaboration with the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation. The questio of introducing Night Services from Bangalore to all district headquarters is under consideration of the Corporation.

During the year the Mysore Road Transport Corporation entered into agreements with its sister organisations in the States of Madras, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra and Goa and as a result, the Mysore State Road Transport Corporation and the public sector undertakings in the other States have been operating 58 routes on a reciprocal basis.

Law and Order

I have already referred to the improvement in the law and order situation. The Forensic Science Laboratory established in the year 1967 has been rendering valuable assistance in the detection and investigation of crimes. During the year, a mobile Forensic Science Laboratory van completely equipped with gas, electricity, water, a photographic room and equipment for field work to study and conduct chemical examinations in the field has been started as an adjunct to the Forensic Science Laboratory. This would aid scientific investigation of crimes on the spot without loss of time.

The Police Housing Scheme made further progress and it is expected that by the end of this year 67 per cent of the Police personnel would have been properly housed.

Prisons

Greater emphasis is being laid on reformation and rehabilitatiou measures. Prisoners are being provided with library and cultural facilities and given training in useful occupation. The Manufacturing Units located in jails have been provided with modern equipment and tools.

The Open Air Jail at Saundatti in Belgaum District inaugurated in April 1968 continues to function satisfactorily. Two hundred prisoners are engaged in canal digging in the Malaprabha Project area. Under this scheme until the end of October 1969 work of the value of Rs. 1,21,227 had been turned out and the prisoners were paid Re. 1 per day as wages. During the Gandhi Centenary Year, an order of amnesty for release of certain classes of prisoners was issued under which 502 prisoners from the various jails were released.

Home Guards and Civil Defence

There are 155 Home Guard Units in the State consisting of 12,644 Home Guards as on 31st October 1969 as against 12,342 during the previous year. Selected Home Guards from districts are given specialised training in fire fighting, rescue, and first-aid at the combined

Home Guards and Civil Defence Training Institute, Bangalore. So far 10,343 Home Guards have completed basic training and 1,263 have completed advanced training. Special courses in flood rescue measure are also being held for both to the Home Guards and Police staff drawn from the districts frequently affected by floods.

Fire Force

Construction of a Fire-station-*cum*-Central Traning Centre at Jayanagar was sanctioned in April 1967. The first stage of this complex is nearing completion. The Centre will provide in-service traning and refresher courses to officers of the Department. During the year sanction has been accorded for the opening of a fire station at Shimoga and the station building and few quarters are under construction.

Information

Intensive publicity campaigns were undertaken at several places in the State. The entire State is now covered by 19 District Information Centres. During last year, about 30 foreign journalists visited the State. A series of brochures on the State's power potentialities, agricultural development and cultural heritage were brought out.

A series of Divisional Level Exhibitions were held at Gulbarga and Belgaum during the year to portray the progress of the State in various fields. The Image of Mysore Exhibitions have been held outside the State at Bombay and New Delhi.

Publicity relating especially to Family Planning, Small Savings, Communal Harmony and National Integration has been undertaken through the media of Song and Drama for which a new separate unit has been set up in the Department.

The Radio Rural Forums which are active centres of dissemination of farm news have been made more active than before.

Film Unit

Schemes relating to grant of subsidy to every full length feature film produced within the State and cash awards to the best Kannada feature films were continued for this year also. During the year, subsidy was sanctioned for 15 films at the rate of Rs. 50,000 per film.

Under another scheme which was sanctioned last year to provide incentive to production of quality films, Directors, Actors, Actresses, Story-writers, Music Directors, Cameramen and Sound Engineers were honoured for outstanding performance by the grant of cash awards and certificates of merit.

Tourism

The inflow of foreign tourists has increased and on rough estimates 1/10th of the foreign tourists visiting the country pay a visit to the State every year. To encourage tourism on sound lines the proposals for setting up of State Tourist Development Corporation are under consideration. There has also been a marked increase in the number of home tourists visiting the State.

Legislation

A number of Bills were placed before you during the previous session. Some of these Bills, have been passed by you and have become Acts; others could not be taken up for want of time. Some of these Bills and the following six Bills which are to replace ordinances promulgated, when the legislature was not in session, will be placed before you for your consideration.

1. The City of Bangalore Improvement (Amendment) Bill, 1970.
2. The Mysore Village Panchayats and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1970.
3. The Mysore Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 1970.
4. The Mysore Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 1970.
5. The Mysore Excise (Amendment) Bill, 1970.
6. The Mysore Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1970.

Democratic institutions in this country are passing through a testing time. Recent developments in the country have given rise to numerous stresses to which our young democracy had so far not been subject. In some quarters, there have been doubts as to whether our Legislatures and representative institutions are strong enough to withstand these stresses. It is the sagacity of the Members of the two Houses, their spirit of tolerance and their measure of attachment to ethical values which will play a crucial part in determining the extent to which the democratic experiment in India will survive the present crisis. I have earnest hope that the Hon'ble Members of the Mysore Legislature will meet the challenge of the time and discharge their obligations to the people of the State.

I once again extend my greetings and best wishes to you all for success in your endeavours. May your deliberations be fruitful and contribute to all round development, prosperity and stability of the State.

JAI Hind